

ABLE TOGETHER

APRIL, 1995 Volume 2, Number 2

*a quarterly newsletter serving abled
and disabled gay and bisexual men*

Lavender Library, Archives
and Cultural Exchange
Sacramento, CA

#9813

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LIEBEN UND ARBEITEN

*A warm welcome to all readers of the
ABLE-TOGETHER newsletter, and our special
acknowledgment to those of you who are new subscribers.*

We preface this April, 1995 edition with Sigmund Freud's definition of psychological well-being: the *ability* to love and to work. Freud believed that humans are fulfilled by meaningful connection with others and by the experience of making a difference in the daily living of the world.

Is this a threat posed by *dis*-ability? That we might be, or might experience ourselves to be, *dis*-abled from making a difference or from making meaningful connection? If so than it would follow that any thing or condition which makes it harder for us to work and to love is "disabling".

This is worth remembering in a world where, for all too many of us, the word *disabled* denotes person-in-wheelchair. That such a person, perhaps someone who cannot walk or who is not physically strong, is likely to find it harder to work, to make a difference, or to love and be loved, seems to follow from the observation that most lovers and most employers appear to prefer people who are robust.

ABLE-TOGETHER tries to see beyond the *disability>equals-person-in-wheelchair* equation. From the information you have given us, we calculate that the proportion of A-T subscribers who are wheelchair users is little over one quarter; and the list of conditions and things which are in and of themselves, and according to our hypothesis, disabling is literally endless; extending in all directions well beyond even the many things and conditions which have people using wheelchairs.

People affected by disabling circumstances are, above all else, people; with a natural need to know they can love and work. Each disabled man needs to know and to hope that his disability will not completely bar him from fulfillment. In this regard, Jonathan Farrell tells us, in his article published in this issue, that his needs are for Hollywood to lionize someone he can identify with - a walking-impaired male loving and working on-screen.

Nothing bars people from working and loving so completely as does death. Steve Saleh, whom we are very glad to welcome as a contributor this issue, suggests that people with disabilities who lack motor coordination or use tools for movement serve as symbols of mortality, in the same way as do people with AIDS. He hopes that growth in the

collective consciousness will some day allow all of us to transcend the fear of others', and of our own, mortality and embrace all those who are its reminders.

And somewhere out of all this emerges the curious, paradoxical nature of ABLE-TOGETHER's population: viewed from one perspective we are an at-one movement of disabled, and disabled-aware abled people; and viewed another way we are at the same time a random collection of wildly and delightfully different folks with quite disparate needs - needs for recognition and meaning which all too often don't dovetail perfectly, and all too frequently conflict openly.

Some of the conflicts are articulated in this issue. Jonathan Farrell suggests that Marlee Matlin's recognition might well serve as an icon for people who are hearing-impaired, but doesn't do a whole lot for him; one of our disabled correspondents (*see p. 8*) seeks to explore the motivating inner world of some of our abled subscribers whose personal contact ads are disturbing to him; and, for the first time in this issue, ABLE-TOGETHER publishes the personal contact ad of a prisoner in a new *Men Behind Bars* section in the ad listings.

People in prison are by that very fact well distanced from their potential ability to love and work, even before any other forms of disabilities, are taken into account. People in prison may also scare people with connotations of violent, dangerous or other criminal behaviors.

ABLE-TOGETHER is most unwilling to discriminate against anyone who is distanced from working and loving; and we wish at least to attempt - *although we do not guarantee to succeed* - to protect our subscribers and readers from hurting each other in any way. So A-T aims to explore and then transcend conflict first by recognizing and naming it and then by fostering an ongoing and healing dialog between our readers in these editorial pages. And, as with the prisoners issue, by doing our best (*see p. 5*) to adapt previously existing policies and to devise new ones in we hope useful response to the needs we see.

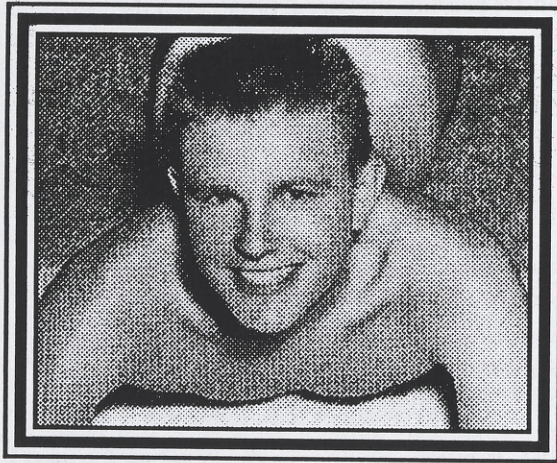
Disability/ability and disappointment/fulfillment are many-splendored continua. ABLE-TOGETHER hopes to be a facilitative factor for all our readers' strivings in the direction of their desired poles.

FROM
THE
EDITOR'S
DESK

ABLE-TOGETHER

A-T VOICEMAIL UPDATE

When you want to call ABLE-TOGETHER on our voice-mail line (415) 522 9091 - you can at any time during the long greeting skip listening further to it and get straight away to the recording beep tone by **pressing the # key on your touch-tone telephone**. A-T encourages readers to keep in touch with us; you may use the voice-mail to request updates/changes to your ads, to telephone opinions and comments through to us that we might wish to publish in the Letters Page of the newsletter, - or just to touch base with us. A-T is about relationship and we value knowing you and our personal contact with you. *Keep in touch with us!*



AN ABLE-TOGETHER CALENDAR?

ABLE-TOGETHER men are hot! That's the message from those A-T subscribers who have shared with us their ideas for getting it across that disability and sexiness are very much **not** mutually exclusive; some of you have told us you are interested in modeling work, one of you has written a romantic screenplay - *Jonathan Farrell, please note!* - featuring a disabled gay male lead, and there are rumors that at least one of our readers is proposing himself for the making of a video.

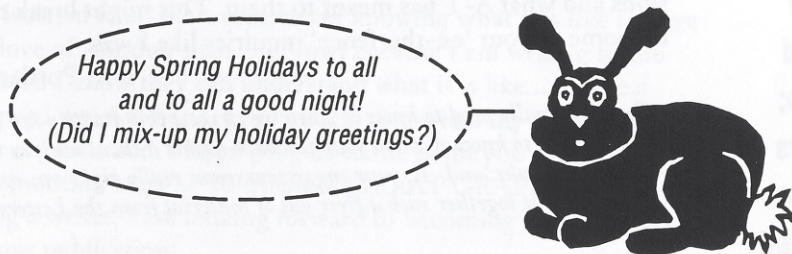
We thought - *how about an ABLE-TOGETHER calendar?* We would love to know what readers think. If you like the idea, and think you take a pretty hot picture (tasteful/soft-porn guidelines only, please!), why don't you write in, or call the voice-mail, and share your ideas with us? C'mon... there must be twelve of you!

NEWS & VIEWS

ABLE-TOGETHER... ON THE NEWS-STANDS?

ABLE-TOGETHER on the news-stands? Not quite - but we are, at the time of going to press with this April issue of the A-T newsletter, actively negotiating with two gay bookstores, *A Different Light* in San Francisco and *Bailey-Coy Books* in Seattle. Both outlets have expressed interest in carrying our product.

The ABLE-TOGETHER staff feels good about this recognition of our population by the gay mainstream. What do our subscribers think? We invite you to call the voice-mail and let us know.



MEN BEHIND BARS

For the first time in this April, 1995 edition of ABLE-TOGETHER, we incorporate a personal contact section, published with a disclaimer, for the ads of men who are in prison. Many prisoners attempt to ease their loneliness by canvassing for correspondents in *any* publication, even if the prisoner is not a "natural" constituent member of the population served by the particular publication.

Men who are in prison will, unfortunately and understandably, attract connotations of violent, dangerous or other criminal behaviors for many ABLE-TOGETHER readers, who may have concerns to know our policies in regard to prisoners. A prisoner sending an inquiry to A-T is advised that A-T is not for him *unless* he is a disabled, or disabled-aware abled bisexual or gay man. At the present time we will not decline paid full-year subscriptions from a prisoner so long as we have reason to believe that he is a disabled-aware individual; however prisoners may not purchase single issues of the newsletter, nor will A-T publish a prisoner's ad unless he is a paid full-year subscriber.

**A-T
may
print
extracts
from
letters
received
unless
specifi-
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asked
not to;
writers
will be
identified
by their
initials,
city and
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unless
we are
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advised
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contrary.**

- I just wanted...to applaud you for the article that you included on the second page of your yellow promotional flyer that you adapted from the editorial in your October '94 issue...You did a truly brilliant job at articulating my exact unspoken thoughts and feelings.

J O, San Francisco, CA

- I just received my first issue of ABLE-TOGETHER and after reading it cover to cover, the first thing I wanted to do was write you a thank you letter. I am...even more pleased with your editorial comments and policies...I have been searching for a way to contact gay and disabled men for quite some time, and felt that I was the only [abled] person who wanted to...I think [the single issue/upgrade scheme] is a terrific idea...In addition I would like to suggest that [you include] messages from current subscribers to potential subscribers covering their first impressions and what A-T has meant to them. This might break the ice for some of your 'on-the-fence' inquiries like I was.

T K, Portland, OR

Guys, we really need to know it when we strike a chord with you , and you deserve to know it when your feedback strikes a chord with us - many, many thanks; and, T., your suggestion seems really right-on: we might put together such a flyer out of material from the Letters Pages?

- Have really appreciated getting your publication - especially now that it looks so professional and reads like high-quality literature. You have run my ad for a couple of years, and I'd like you to know that it has paid off. I'm happy to report that we're now a cozy pair...I'm enclosing a small donation...Congratulations and thanks.

Name and address supplied

- Enclosed find a check for \$5 to forward some letters for me. Thanks. Can't wait for the next issue of A-T. Thanks again!

J W, Tracy, MN

- ...several nice people I've met through [ABLE-TOGETHER].

J C, Atlanta, GA

We're always so encouraged to hear about it when A-T succeeds in bringing a meaningful connection; thank you for writing and good luck to you!

- Thanks very much for...your one and only available back issue [copy]...I've been so thrilled reading the ads and writing letters to what I hope will be newfound friends who closely share experience and interest that I wanted to send you [a donation].

Name and address supplied

You guys are so great! Our warmest thanks to you and to our other donors, for parting with that little bit extra for the cause; A-T is still - as yet - so small that we barely cover our production and outreach costs even at present subscription levels, and your donations are both badly needed and very greatly appreciated.

A - T
LETTERS

- It was such a pleasure to receive my first issue of ABLE-TO-GETHER ... I have spent many years hiding my disability [which is] a mental disorder ... You and your fine publication have literally opened up a brand new world for me. Before receiving A-T I felt as though I would have to live my life alone and isolated from the world, never knowing what it is like to have the love of another man ... [Now] because I am writing to the disabled I know they can understand what it is like ... I have a renewed sense of hope. I can't begin to express my gratitude for your organization. I hope [it] gets to the point you can put it out on a monthly basis ... To Michael, GREAT GRAPHICS! ... Being a writer, I am looking forward to becoming a contributor to your publication!

Name and address supplied

Thank you for honoring us with your letter. We appreciate hearing that A-T has brought hope into your life. And we greatly look forward to your becoming a contributor.

- Boy you guys are fast ... I keep re-reading [the newsletter] ... ABLE-TOGETHER is truly first-class. Keep up the work and good luck to you all.

K B, Tallahassee, FL

Guys, we so greatly appreciate the feedback and you deserve our recognition and warmest thanks for letting us know we're ok!

- Thanks so much for sending your ABLE-TOGETHER booklet. It's great! I have already spread the good news to my friends ... and hope they join too!

C D'A, San Diego, CA

LETTERS

- As a disabled gay man, I find it curious how some [abled] men state their preferences for guys with disabilities, especially when the desire is for a person with a certain type of physical limitation, such as an amputee, or a wheelchair or crutch user. For some, I hope the motivation may be an assumption of added emotional sensitivity and greater sensual appreciation. This has no direct correlation with the level of impairment. I know many consider a man with a disability less- or unattractive when measured against the ideal. Consequently a disabled man would [be] assumed to be grateful for any romantic attention from anyone, and would respond positively. That attitude, though unfortunate, is part of life. It is up to each person with a disability to challenge that type of thinking, gay or straight. I fear though that framework is the motivation of many able[d] who write looking for a [disabled] companion. I would assume that for every one that assumes the former, two assume the latter. But neither would account for why certain types of disabilities make a difference. What is the turn on?

Name and address supplied

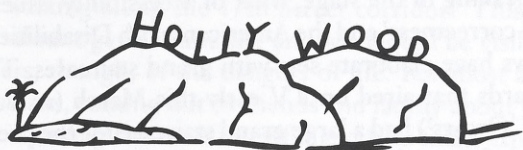
Thank you so much for opening up this dialog with this letter and we very much hope that many readers will wish to respond to you. A-T assumes only that our subscribers' motivation is to seek meaningful connection with each other; whilst the question what is the turn-on? intrigues us, we are aware that abled men who seek meaningful connection with men with disabilities are sensitive to being asked this question in a way that feels to them different to the asking of the question why do you like men with blond hair? We look forward to hearing from other A-T readers on this subject.

- You cannot know how pleased I am to find your ad in this week's Washington Blade. I have been long searching for a group such as this through which I can get in touch with men with disabilities.

Name and address supplied

- Thanks for my sample copy. I'm impressed - get me in the next issue! I'll be happy to share with my disabled friends in the NY area. Good luck!

E D, Bronx, NY



ARTICLES

"And I'd like to thank..."

That established modern cultural event called the *Awards Ceremony* has yet to add accessibility - both to the categories for which awards are made, and to the ranks of nominees in the present categories. It is true that over the past decade or so we have seen a more accurately diverse range of people represented amongst award recipients; however with all the congratulations and the many, many words of "thanks" to just about every possible someone on the planet, there is still one milestone not quite reached: the person with a disability becoming a major star.

My personal stake in this is the wish to see someone up there with whom I can identify; so, when I say *person with a disability*, I mean someone with an obvious walking impairment, such as my own. An award to, say, a hearing-impaired actress doesn't do it for me. I see her disability as easily eclipsed by her perfect physical presentation and film-industry glamor. Yet are Hollywood and the general public ready for a handsome leading man or a beautiful talented woman to burst onto the screen in leg braces or a wheelchair?

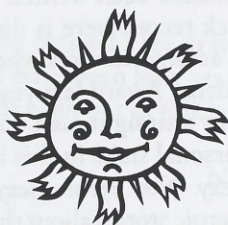
Screenplays and stories have been written portraying people in such situations, but the track record here is dissatisfying and disappointing to me. Firstly, the actors/actresses who played these people were abled. Just as the Academy Award last year went to the performance of a gay man played by a straight man - after all, it was just for the movie. Secondly, my personal stake in this is for a cultural icon I can identify with who is sexy. Not heroic, *sexy*! So, America, what about it? You accepted the heroic stories about the gay man with AIDS and about the poet with CP; a few years ago you accepted the fact that a very beautiful and talented actress can be sexy and have a hearing impairment too; now, how about a sexy episode in the life of a disabled man! And played by a disabled man! How about someone in a wheelchair or with an artificial limb taking a place up there on the Awards Ceremony stage for some applause!

And speaking of the stage, what of accessibility issues in this era of 'political correctness' and the Americans with Disabilities Act? Most award shows have elaborate sets with grand staircases. The People's Choice awards that aired on TV early this March (as if to pave the way for the 'Oscars') had a large grand staircase for the presenters and lots and lots of ground for the recipients' feet to cover as they went up to take their award. It seemed to me that this would be scary terrain even for abled folks with perhaps a touch of recipient's vertigo. Perhaps an important "thank you" in an acceptance speech for an up and coming new star who just happens to have a disability, might be, "and yes, I want to thank the stage manager here in particular, and the crew, who really did make the stage accessible for me tonight!"

Television and the movies have reflected and inspired us with many images, and in these past several years, the media have played a major role in bringing to light the lives of a diverse nation. While at this time in the entertainment industry 'minority groups' are making their mark on screens big and small, there is still that segment of society that is not completely represented. People with disabilities can be from any background or socio-economic structure. So is it that America has a fear of disability?

It would make sense that people fear disability because it speaks of vulnerability. Yet, as I see it, it is the very quality of vulnerability and what follows from it - being seen, understood, connected with, *loved*, that audiences find most appealing in their movie heroes. Ironical, isn't it?

Jonathan Farrell, who has CP, is a writer-journalist living in San Francisco, Ca.



On June 25th around ten homosexual men and women began to march to Central Park. Most were in wheelchairs, one had cerebral palsy, and a couple had canes. I, a gay man, was the only one on crutches. We formed the disabled contingent of the march. It is rare that we are seen in the community as a group. We appear magically at the large events, like the march on Washington in 1993 or Stonewall 25 this year, only to melt away moments later like the chocolate on a Dove bar on a hot day. The rest of the time we are fairly invisible, like those suffering with AIDS alone.

I often wondered, why are there are so few of us - the disabled and PWAs walking along the 17th Street corridor? This is the epicenter of a vibrant gay community and we should be visible. We are the reminders, though, of the dangers of life. For most able bodied gays and lesbians, coming out to friends and family about your sexual orientation is among the most stressful and fear-filled experiences of a lifetime. Being open about a diagnosis of HIV or AIDS is a second coming out. It is a sentence of physical limitations even if the body is still whole and functional. Walking with crutches or propelling oneself in a chair is a similar experience. For most of the community, our physical beauty is diminished by the tools we use for movement or our lack of coordination. Who we are is lost in the fear of associating with what we look like. Sound familiar?

For those of us who have come out twice, today is what matters. Any good day free of pain and sickness and sadness is a gentle present to be celebrated in the presence of the people we love and feel closest to - friends, family, and the communities we live in. For a brief, glorious hour on June 25 my community, the gay movement, celebrated our presence with smiles and clapping and, most of all, a sense of respect. We were not invisible, and our beauty as individuals glowed in the summer sun.

I would prefer to be visible and welcomed every day. I would be glad not to engender feelings of fear and discomfort in others, both gay and straight. As I walk down 17th Street at least I have hope now. In time lesbians and gays with disabilities may move from icons to individuals, and be welcomed. Each homosexual man and woman has infinite potential to grow. Acceptance of physical limitations may happen as society, including the gay community, stretches the social standards of acceptance each of us feels compelled to attain.

I don't get angry anymore when ignored in a bar because of my disability - just occasionally upset. I have a memory of a day in the past when I felt well enough to participate in an event of great importance and was appreciated and cheered. I have seen the potential of what our community and the individuals who compose it can rise up to become.

On 17th Street it is the physically beautiful who cascade down from block to block, capturing the glances of untold admiration. PWAs and the disabled slip through on rare occasion. Still, we are a part of your experience that you may grow to embrace. In the future anything is possible.

Steve Saleh is a freelance writer and founder of Club DAG, a group for gay men and lesbians with disabilities. This writing has previously been published - addressed primarily to a not-disabled-aware population - in the Washington Blade.

GUIDE TO A-T CONTACT AD LISTINGS

How to reply to a coded ad: put your letter in an envelope, seal it, and put the A-T code # of the advertiser you are replying to in the top right corner of the envelope; put this envelope, together with the correct reimbursement for forwarding, please, (see below), in another envelope, seal, address to A-T and mail! You may respond to as many coded ads as you wish, and put all the numbered envelopes in one larger envelope to mail to us.

We believe the best kind of ad is the one that gives the reader the clearest picture of who you are. We therefore encourage ad length and accurate statement of personal statistics such as age and weight. You should bear in mind that our subscribers are likely to want to know whether you are disabled or abled, so please include this information, and try to be as detailed as you can about yourself and your way of being and presentation in the world, because it very greatly helps both you and potential responders if they can gain a reasonable picture you from the ad. *We encourage changes and updates to ads!*

Sexually explicit or overly fetishistic material is edited out of personal contact ads submitted to ABLE-TOGETHER; this is because many of our subscribers are offended by such material, and because our circulation includes, eg ILCs, where a copy may be kept for reference, and this additional source of potential new members is important. *If you are dissatisfied with this policy we will cancel your subscription.*

ABLE-TOGETHER does not profit from forwarding replies to coded contact ads, but we do ask that you send us full reimbursement for our postage costs in forwarding your reply to the advertiser:

- mostly, for US responses to US advertisers, this will be a 32¢ stamp, *but please note that heavier items cost more to send, and when in doubt, please check at the post office;*
- for overseas responders who do not have US stamps and wish to send a \$1 bill, this will cover *three* replies;

Remittance of forwarding costs may be made to ABLE-TOGETHER in valid US postage stamps, in currency, or by check or money order. All payments are sent to us at sender's risk. ABLE-TOGETHER does not accept responsibility for materials sent to us to be forwarded, and we reserve the right to destroy materials not accompanied by adequate reimbursement for forwarding costs.

PERSONAL CONTACTS INITIATED THROUGH ABLE-TOGETHER CONTACT AD LISTINGS ARE DONE SO ENTIRELY AT THE RISK AND ON THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PERSONS CONCERNED. WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO MAKE SURE YOU ARE DOING WHAT YOU WANT TO BE DOING, AND WITH THE PERSON YOU WANT TO BE DOING IT WITH. IF YOU DECIDE TO BE SEXUAL WITH SOMEONE YOU ARE VERY STRONGLY URGED FIRST TO CALL YOUR LOCAL AIDS/STD HOTLINE FOR ADVICE.

**CONTACT
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SEEKING AN AMPUTEE WHO LIKES OLDER MEN. I'm 72, 5'7", 140 #. Some say that I'm loving, sexy, gentle and mature. I think of myself as healthy, independent, and totally out as a gay man. No macho athlete, but I swim, hike and bike a bit. Retired, my interests now lie in volunteering, classical music, science and agnostic religion. I am relationship-oriented and have deep roots in Alaska, and would love to meet someone here or who might want to relocate in this great place. But I'm equally happy to travel to meet you. I hope you might think I'm an interesting person, perhaps even a 'nice catch', and I'd love to hear from you! *Fred Hillman, 1685 Stanton Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99508-5034.*

ALASKA. Quiet, responsible, Christian, abled GWM seeks soul mate to explore love, life and spirituality. The simple pleasures of life, like gardening, being outside, reading, sex, cuddling and music, make me happy. I work as a librarian and lead a fairly orderly and frugal life, but one that includes lots of creativity and non-destructive spontaneity. My high energy level and childlike, joyous outlook allow me to brighten the lives of others and to make a positive difference in the world. Being an Aquarian, I prefer to let go and simply enjoy what life brings to me and not to form detailed opinions on every little aspect of life. I am 33, have soft brown hair (balding), bright blue eyes, beard, weigh 170 lbs and stand 5'11". If you are a non-smoker who likes music, fantasy novels, growing things, and life, let's talk. *Tracy Swaim, POB 210071, Auke Bay, AK 99821-0071.*

Internet: tracys@muskox.alaska.edu

ARIZONA. GWM 37, 5'8", 220lbs, disabled with cerebral palsy, looking for friendship first, then maybe more later. Prefer you to be in age range 44-64. I will answer all who write. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #710.*

CALIFORNIA. Attractive GWM, 5'9", green eyes, chestnut-brown hair, with goatee, 165 pounds. My physical challenge is cerebral palsy affecting my legs. This challenge does not stop me from staying active. I ride a mountain bike around Golden Gate Park regularly. I

**CONTACT
ADS
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exercise routinely and stay in good shape. I enjoy the arts and humanities and philosophy was my major in college. I work at a corporate job part-time while pursuing a career in writing. I aspire to become a literary artist, by completing a novel and having it published soon. Please write to 1550 22nd Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122.

ORANGE COUNTY, CA. Hi, I'm 41, 5'7", 190# Bi male. I enjoy Skin & Scuba Diving, Cycling, Tennis, Photography and Astronomy among other activities. I have a slight physical inconvenience from having contracted Polio in my left leg and hip as a child, but it hasn't slowed me down much. I would like to meet other Bi males, Gays or Bi couples, who are physically able or inconvenienced. It is my hope to meet others who share some of the activities noted - and who would also enjoy (with respect to our feelings and desires) the gentle warmth that comes to those who experience the joy, pleasures and eroticism of giving as well as receiving pleasure to fulfillment. Please enclose a photo, and preferably your phone number. Hopefully a friend, Sal. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #520.*

SAN DIEGO AREA. Shy GWM, post-polio with leg brace, younger looking 40's, likes nude fun and SM/BD games indoors and out. Not into the bar scene - enjoy quiet evenings at home, dinner out, travel, etc. Interested in meeting guys able or disabled for friendship, pen pals, safe sex, etc. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #137.*

SAN FRANCISCO. Hi! I'm JJ, a GWM, 45, 5'7", 140lbs, HIV negative, with a neuromuscular disorder. Use cane much of the time, but work out in the gym and at home. Enjoy music from classical to rock, good food and wine, X-rated videos, safe sex. Would love to meet others in the Bay Area for friendship and companionship. Possible LTR if you're GWM, 40-55, nonfat, HIV negative. Hairy a plus. Penpals welcomed. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #521.*

CALIFORNIA. Gay blind man with an eye for beauty seeks friend for fun and honest relationship. Will take him sight unseen. Sensitive and fun please reply, San Diego area. Kevin Collin, POB 3357, San Diego, CA 92163-3357.

CALIFORNIA. YQ: An early-retired professional, non-mainstream, dominant, Mediterranean, of intellectual and sentimental depth, searching internationally for mature companion of substance. I aspire to a synergistic and practical (not idealistic) union based on playfulness, direct communication, comprehension, appreciation, and romantic or platonic love. I've been called witty, earthy, compassionate, artistic, bohemian, outspoken, and a perennial quester of truth and quality. **TU:** Perhaps disabled, elderly, unaffectedly effeminate, chronically ill, physically unfit, a curmudgeon, or in any other way "unmarketable". **SI:** Non-conformity, liberalness, awareness, non-material-

ism, high-mindedness, robust fun, authenticity, turbulent sex, refinement, softness/sensitivity, East Coasters, Europeans, Cubans, and Japanese. NO: Euphemisms, enneagram number threes, conspicuous political correctness, hypermasculinity, emotional shallowness, mindlessness, addictions to busyness, tobacco, or perfume. INTERESES: Overnight motor trips, dry climates, substantial relationships, disclosing conversation, female friends, orchids, massage, yesteryear's theater and films, practical psychology (e.g. the enneagram), fine eateries, classic jazz, inner growth, correspondence via cassette tape, erotica, elders, new experiences, literary modern classics, the blues, estate sales, teratology, animals (except house cats), word games, sallying. CAUSAS: Advocacy for prisoners, PWAs, and consumers, Environmental detox. LIMITACIONES: Due to sleep apnea, multiple chemical sensitivities, and intractable upper-back pain, I socialize in the slow lane (occasionally in the S. Francisco Bay Area). R. F. G., POB 351, Santa Cruz, CA 95061-0351. Evenings: (408) 423 1155.

SEEKS FRIENDSHIP WITH LOVE. My name is David. I am a 28 yr old college boy, 5'10", strong and in good shape. Dark-brown hair and, am told, very good looking. I love people and desire friendships, pen-pals and possible relationship. I am a warm, caring, outgoing person who likes humor, fun-loving, happy-go-lucky type people. I love children, nature and animals. I teach the Healing Arts and Spirituality. I do massage. I live near Palm Springs, Ca, and enjoy visitors. Male or female, any color, nationality and any age are welcomed to reply. *David Glen, POB 815, Joshua Tree, CA 92252.*

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA. Outgoing, energetic, abled man, 35, 5'11", 175#, who enjoys adventure, romance, keeping busy and quiet times, nature and city life, friendship, would like to correspond with and meet disabled man who shares an active mind and a love of life. I'm a health professional, enjoy travel, communication, and look forward to talking. *Steven, POB 386, Larkspur, CA 94977.*

CALIFORNIA. Hi, I'm a physically challenged gay white male. I'm looking for correspondence, and a possible future meeting, with people that are open minded and intelligent enough to realize that, even though I'm unable to walk, I do have the heart and physical ability to love. I would like to correspond with, and possibly meet, other physically challenged individuals. I would also like to hear from goodlooking, able-bodied men who are open minded enough to think that the challenged have more to offer than our wisdom. I have a great many interests, some of which include traveling, writing, reading, and bbs'ing. My favorite types of music are country and easy listening, although I also love a good classical piano concerto. Other interests include the performing arts and admiring nature. I enjoy going for a nice stroll in my chair with someone special. Even though I currently live in Southern California, I usually travel up to Northern California once a month

CONTACT
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CA

**CONTACT
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and stay there for about a week. I have very youthful looks, a great personality, a high intelligence, and a heart that can easily get warmer than 98.6. (No that doesn't mean I get a lot of heartburn!) I look very fragile, but I think that the fact that I'm 42 and I've lived on my own for the last 20 years should be a sign that I'm not that delicate. Especially since I've been dependent on others to provide for my care. I'm sexually ready and able, but I have enough self-respect to sleep only with someone that I like. (When I was younger I felt like I had better take the sex while I had the chance.) Well, that's about it for now. I hope that I'll hear from some of you all. *Terry L. Hand, 1730 N. Towne Ave., #12, Claremont, CA 91711-3234.*

CALIFORNIA. I am 56 years old, 225 #, 5'8", very hirsute, and versatile. Use an electric scooter to get around, suffer from MS; left leg paralyzed but rest of body is in fine working order. Ex HS teacher and originally from NY. Caring, warm, looking for permanent relationship. *Adolf Sand, 3756 Cardiff Avenue #104, Los Angeles, CA 90034-4090.*

CALIFORNIA. GWM, 58, 5'11", brn/hzl, 200 #, ambulatory with structural limitations. I'm into ham radio, camping, fishing, outdoors. I have a home but spend a lot of time on the coast in the travel trailer. Seeking a compatible gay/bi man who understands the hardships of being disabled, yet in that disability has discovered the true meaning of life, and wants to share the discovery. ABLE-TOGETHER says it all! I have a loving, caring nature, and can give all to the one I love. *Bud H., POB 382, Yolo, CA 95697.*

CALIFORNIA. GWM in South Orange County looking to meet same. I am looking to make new friends and maybe even meet "Mr. Right". You can write me at *POB 701, Lake Forest, CA 92630-0701*, or call me at (714) 458 8965 before 10pm. Hope to hear from you soon. *Paul.*

CALIFORNIA. Attractive bi white guy, 48, 6', 180 #, college grad, professional, desires friend for safe, discreet mutual massage and exploration. I have nerve damage affecting my feet and use a 3-wheel scooter. I am healthy, active, and mobile. Please be healthy, cut, and a non-smoker. *Richard, POB 64844, Los Angeles, CA 90064.*

GAY NAVY VETERAN. Disabled gay Navy veteran wishes to correspond with penpals from all over the world - you won't be disappointed! Write today! *Robert C. Healy, 1086 Post Street #309, San Francisco, CA 94109, telephone: (415) 921 8950.*

FEEL THE PULL! Abled WJM, attractive 44, fit very hairy muscular 5'11" 160#, bald and very close-cropped, clean shaven with unshaven lower lip/sometimes goatee, warm, caring, interested, biopsychospiritually oriented graduate student presently based in San

Francisco and open to disabled or abled man for friendship - travel - relationship - hearing what you are open to. Initially I am pulled to you by our surface differences, such as maybe in age or in physical ability, or by extremes in how you present yourself, such as very long or very short hair, or extended sideburns; I delight in apparent contrasts like your upper-body strength if you're maybe on crutches, and in cute ironies like if you're maybe a stockbroker who goes skateboarding, and I delight in letting you know the impact you have on me and in learning how I impact you. My sense is that the kind of man you are is connecting to the part of me that is just a little scared of standing out - but is ready to learn, and to stand out in relationship with you. If you are interested to feel with me the pull generated by our surface differences or to explore with me how non-different and connected we are underneath, or if anything I say here intrigues or in some way speaks to you, then I hope you will want to try to get in touch. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #252 or ph. (415) 431 8356.*

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA. Professional GWM, 6'1", gym toned 160 lbs, very young looking 53, light brown hair, short beard, able-bodied, HIV-, who loves home, friends, outdoor activities, and travel. A past relationship with a disabled man was wonderful and I would like to find another. I live near San Francisco but would like to correspond also with people in other areas. All replies answered. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #310.*

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. 37 year old paraplegic, professional, love to travel, meet men, and enjoy pleasing you orally! Seeking able bodied man between ages 25-37 to see if we can connect for fun and a unique experience! *Steven Crawford, POB 4515, Laguna Beach, CA 92652, telephone: (714) 497 6141.*

CALIFORNIA. Asian, 35, L2 paraparesic; I walk with a cane, but have limited feeling below my waist. I try to live life by the philosophy that every day is a gift because it's something you didn't have the day before. *Brian Tsai, 1730 Jackson Street #109, San Francisco, CA 94109.*

SAN FRANCISCO, CA. GWM 52, baby-faced, boyish, blind, bald and basically bold, professor emeritus CSULA art department now working as a counselor with newly blind and visually impaired people, spiritual in the Franciscan Tradition, recovering co- with tunnel vision for men, all the arts (including film), an inclination toward physical exercise and an ear for music, theater and heavy breathing, seeking long term relationship (eventually) with a guy who is evolved and comfortable with sharing his abilities and disabilities, his life, his body, his friends, his feelings and thoughts, HIV-, adventurous, funny, sensual, thoughtful, playful and centered. *Call (415) 861 5604 or reply with correct postage please to A-T #614.*

UNIQUE INDIVIDUAL, gay male, of Indian and black heritage, raised as a middle-class American, 66 years old, tho' my genes conspire to make me look, facially, barely 40, polio-disabled in childhood and now using an electric wheelchair to great advantage; always active, never indolent, sometime minister, counselor, and now working for our empowerment. I like the theater, musicals, motion pictures, parks, being at home, science, science fiction, and anything that strikes my fancy. My tastes in food are eclectic, with a leaning toward pastas, seafood and Chinese. I enjoy active people. Friendship is for me the only platform for all other interactions, especially including the sexual. I welcome correspondence and interaction with other readers of A-T, disabled or abled. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #669.*

CALIFORNIA. During the past few months I have heard about the work of Shelley Taylor down at UCLA. Her research deals with the positive aspects of denial as a coping strategy for dealing with stress. I'd like to know if anyone has heard about her work. I understand she has been dealing with groups of HIV+ men in the LA area. I am told she feels that in addition to other coping skills such as confrontation, rumination, suppression and aggression, a new coping skill that she calls the "illusory coping skill" has been identified in the HIV+ community: it is a sort of *the glass is always half full* philosophy of life, I think, but I would like to know more about it without running up my long distance telephone bill. Thanks. *Replies with correct postage to A-T #612.*

CALIFORNIA. GLM, 35 years old, non-smoker, wheelchair-user, loves cinema, R & B, jazz, dining out with a good glass of wine; seeks someone with compatible interests. Jose, ph (415) 864 4084, or write to A-T Box. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #392.*

MY NAME IS MICHAEL. I am 41, have black hair and brown eyes, and weigh 195 pounds. My right leg is amputated above the knee. I'm interested in making new friends and am definitely open to the possibility of romance. I enjoy going out with friends for dinner and a movie, play or concert. I also enjoy staying in for more intimate entertainment. I love listening to music, especially classical, latino, and the popular music of the 1930's. I like watching films, especially comedies and campy "B" movies. Another favorite pastime of mine is reading, especially fiction and self-help psychology. I also like to travel. If any of this sounds interesting, please give me a call at ph (213) 221 6472 or write to the A-T Box. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #330.*

LOOKING FOR SOME GOOD FRIENDS. I am 46, 5'9", 170 lbs, disabled, and very interested in corresponding with anyone disabled or abled - age, weight, disability, looks, not important. I am looking not for a relationship, but for buddies for interactive exchange of photos, videos, letters, *whatever*. I have a video camera. Ray, POB 81613, San Diego, CA 92138.

CALIFORNIA. Hi! I'm a GWM, 44, 6', 180#, chair-man due to HIV; basically healthy, have motorized chair and get around pretty good. I like to cook, listen to music I can understand, see movies that make me cry or laugh out loud, and I like being with sincere people. I have 2 cats, smoke, rarely drink, no drugs. I'm looking for friends to do things with. LTR? ... No hurry. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #641.*

ALL LETTERS WITH PHOTO ANSWERED. GWM, 62, retired professional, financially secure, chubby but working on it, masculine, recent diabetic without serious symptoms and optimistic. I enjoy playing piano, writing songs and listening to music, photography, backgammon, computers, long walks, dogs, quiet evenings at home, and conversations tinged with perspective and a sense of humor. I am a volunteer for the blind and am interested in your sorts of problems, also open to hearing from others. And I particularly enjoy sharing experiences with younger persons. Hopefully you are 20-40 and looking for the possibility of something more than a pen-pal. Write to: *George Green, POB 1312, Canyon Country, CA 91386-1312.*

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA. Dominant white male in wheelchair for 25 years, Vietnam vet, 49 years old, 145 lbs, salt & pepper hair, live alone, very independent. I would like to meet abled male for dates, light BD games, friendship and possibly more. Write with photo to: *POB 1253, Downey, CA 90240.*

CALIFORNIA ARTIST. Disabled male, 32, 5'7", 177 lbs, HIV-, brown hair, blue eyes, clean shaven, very little body hair, some say I am stocky and nice. I keep active and exercise when time permits. In life dreams can come true. In October '94 a piece of my Art was given to our President and now proudly sits in the White House. A second dream is to meet a man, become best friends and fall in love with each other, share lifes ups and some downs. I have more dreams such as publishing an important self-help book and possibly co-producing a film. I will make it happen. It would be extra special to share my dreams with another special man - that could be you reading my ad. I enjoy a variety of music, live entertainment, travel when possible, cooking, laughter, outdoor nature, camping, doing and planning a new experience never tried before, and so much more. Penpals, new friends, all welcomed; please send your letter and recent photo for mine. *Claudio D'Agostino, POB 34685, San Diego, CA 92163-4685.*

PENPAL-BUDDY. I am a Bi(G)WM, soon 60, 5'10", 160#, bald, cleanshaven, healthy, HIV negative, newly retired and closeted. I have resisted my desires for years because of professional and family considerations - but I am now ready to volunteer my talents and skills on a sexual level to abled and disabled caring, goodhearted, healthy men of all ages and all cultures who are inclined to want an inexperienced

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buddy once in a while. Want to teach me? I'm a good learner! *Dick, POB 907, Fremont, CA 94537-0907*

CALIFORNIA. My name's Dale, I'm 35 years old, walking paraplegic (cane), HIV+, 5'8", 165 lbs, brown hair/eyes, mustache, hunky build, hairy chest and abdomen, masculine but sensitive, intelligent, seeking other masculine, sensitive, hairy men 40-50 with disabilities and a mustache who enjoy kissing, cuddling and slow, passionate lovemaking. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #839.*

HELLO GUYS! My name is Chris. I'm a 31 year old para in San Francisco hoping to find friends, fun and just maybe a long term relationship in these pages! I'm, 5'6", 130lbs, reddish blond and blue eyes. I enjoy country/western music, Roseanne, my art work, sunshine, rainy days in bed, evenings at home, laughter and smoking (oops!) my cigs. Hope to hear from you soon - and pictures much appreciated! If you're interested please call *ph. (415) 923 9213* or write me at *926 Fillmore #104, San Francisco, CA 94117,*

COLORADO. GWM 60 years old, 6'4", 250 lbs, brown eyes, brown/gray hair. I have been deaf for 20 years but speak good English; my likes are my home, cooking, oil painting, hobbies, and music. I'm in search of someone who likes cuddling, lots of love, and who is HIV negative like I am. I do not have a preference regarding your race and age, but a hairy body and uncut are pluses. If interested, please write with photo. *Burt Oglesby, 343 Linda Vista, Fountain, CO 80817.*

COLORADO. Young 55 white male would like to hear from above knee or above elbow amputees, also to correspond with others with similar interests. *Gene McKeever, POB 12189, Denver, CO 80212.*

COLORADO. GWM 50, abled, interested in sports for all abilities; I relate well to and would enjoy correspondence with physically disabled men. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #498.*

COLORADO. Mature, masculine, teddy bear type guy with non physically appearing disability and interests in boots, leather, seeks to meet same, 18-60, disabled or not, with similar interests. Lifelong interest in guys wearing braces. Intelligent, affectionate, caring, supportive. I am relationship oriented and can travel. Your photo appreciated, mine available. Write to: *Occupant, POB 38471, Colorado Springs, CO 80937.*

FLORIDA. GWM, 5'10", 190# (football player type body), 55, blue eyes, brown/grey hair, moustache, hairy, nice looking, masculine, very much in shape, together, happy-go-lucky, post-polio syndrome, wheelchair most of the time, Irish-Scotch-American Indian, quiet with a great sense of humor, non smoker, light drinker, no drugs. Interests:

swimming, music (classical, opera, Broadway, jazz), cooking, gardening, beach. Looking forward to your letters, men. *John W. Harris, 5515 Madison Street, Hollywood Hills, Fl. 33021.*

TAMPA, FL METRO AREA. GWM 47, abled, 6', hazel eyes, au-burn/graying hair, stocky build, very well educated. I enjoy cultural and historical activities, museums and travel. I am a non-smoker, light drinker, no drugs! Good personality - honest, caring, trustworthy and discreet. I am looking for similar qualities in a man older than myself, someone loving and respectful, wheelchair/crutches/polio a plus. Will exchange photos. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #871.*

FLORIDA. Big bellied weightlifter - abled, 45 y.o., 5'6", 265#, smooth, tattooed, long blond hair, gray ring beard - seeks serious relationship. I'm versatile, creative. Prefer a simple life in the slow lane. I like books, music, the arts, old houses, young antiques, gardening, local politics. I've a weakness for bellies and beards, but by no means required. Will respond to all. *Jim B., 6822-22nd Avenue North #202, St. Petersburg, FL 33710.*

FLORIDA. Painter/sculptor, SBM 33, caring and generous positive-minded paraplegic, no chip on shoulder. I am fully capable of romance, pleasure and passion. I seek connection with open-minded couple or single for creative adventures, funloving friendships. Your love is important to me, not your race or religion. I look forward to contact with you by letter, phone or motel meetings. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #777.*

GAY AND GOD GO GOOD TOGETHER! Recently retired GWM, former social worker and ordained clergyman, full time RV-er, 64, 5'11", 215#, dark blond hair, glasses, non-smoker, non-drinker. Until recently I had an SSI-recipient young lover for eight years who decided he wanted to live the straight life. Now I am looking for a truly gay young man who can relate to an older man who wants to share all of life for a LTR. I will answer all letters. I have memberships in three RV resorts and three nationwide camping associations, a 32' travel trailer and GMC van and a modest retirement income, all of which will go to my companion when I am gone. I prefer someone open to the Christian faith and under 30, but all will be considered. Your photo appreciated but not required. *Ken Debus, POB 63, Lake Harbor, FL 33459.*

FLORIDA. Loyal friend, abled, masculine, educated, attractive, affectionate with gentle sense of humor and healthy lifestyle, 5'11", 175#, 48, br/blue, dress traditional style, enjoy cultural activities, travel, swim, outdoors, cooking, massage. I welcome contact with professional type disabled or abled 60+ gentleman who has similar attributes, is independent, happy and well adjusted, for quality friendship, caring travel com-

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panion, or possible relationship. National/international, discretion assured, photo returned. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #718.*

FLORIDA. A refugee from New England, I am at present involved as a volunteer with three amputee support groups in the Tampa - St. Pete - Clearwater area, having worked in this way for many years. I moved down here permanently from Maine. Yes... I miss the coast and the lobsters and stuff, but... I don't miss those wicked nor'easters and wind-storms. I am anxious to contact ABLE-TOGETHER subscribers, to get to know one another and maybe someday get to meet and greet. I will answer all letters. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #689.*

HOPELESSLY ROMANTIC GWM 38, 6', 190lbs, br/br, mustache, abled, in search of GWM 20-48 disabled who walks with crutches. I enjoy dinners, movies, videos, the beach, amusement parks, quiet times and cuddling with that special person. I am an honest, caring trustworthy male who is interested in a monogamous relationship; I am very affectionate, loving and respectful. I live alone and close to the airport, and would welcome your visit. *Michael Kirnard, 2974 Wildhorse Road, Orlando, FL 32822, pb: (407) 249 0574.*

FLORIDA. WM 48, 6'5", 180lbs, b/k amp with varied interests in search of buddies to play with. Give me a call, lets talk and see what comes up. *Kent, pb. (904) 576 7843.*

ATLANTA ROMANTIC LOOKING FOR PASSION. I'm a GWM, 5'7", 190#, EXTREMELY romantic individual with a non-visually-apparent disability. I'm 34 years young. I have long, naturally curly hair that cascades past my shoulder blades, and aqua blue eyes. I'm spiritually grounded, loving, caring, compassionate, understanding. A human being with a zest for life and all it has to offer. I have no problems with disabilities of any kind. Race is unimportant. As long as you're from the human race. I'm looking for a person with these same qualities to become my lifemate. I am a highly committed individual and expect the same. I prefer men who are 20-45. I'm turned on by long hair and white or blue jeans and white cotton briefs, and am open to different forms of sexual expression as long as pain isn't involved. I'm into the performing arts, all kinds of music with a preference for country and jazz, long walks on the beach, cuddling under the stars, and bringing happiness to others. I love to laugh and love. I live alone and would be open to visitors to our "Olympic City". I am a certified massage therapist and enjoy using my hands. I'm a gourmet chef and accomplished homemaker. You can send a picture if you like but I care more about what you look like on the inside than the outside. I would be willing to relocate for the right person. Are you him? PLEASE WRITE: *Alden Harris, 429 N. Highland Ave. N. E., Suite #6, Atlanta, GA 30307-1455.*

GEORGIA. GWM 51, brown, blue, have polio of right leg, walk with a limp, cane and an attitude; interests in leather (top) and feet; orally sexual only and love to play all night long. I am looking for a younger man, construction or business type, no jocks. I am retired on a fixed income, but will welcome anyone coming to Atlanta. I am up very late at night and please call me on *pb.* (404) 787 5864 or *replies with correct postage please to A-T #091.*

GEORGIA. I'm looking for a male friend, in all areas, with a sense of humor, who can also be serious. Ages 30-45. In uniform, with a beard, or very hairy is a plus, but look forward to hearing from you all - send a picture if you can. *Jay Costello, POB 95092, Atlanta, GA 30347.*

OAHU, HAWAII. Aloha! My name is Ken, and I would like to meet any ABLE-TOGETHER subscribers that may be coming down to our beautiful tropical islands. I am an abled gay man, healthy and in good shape for a guy just turned 50. I am six feet tall and weigh 180 lbs. I never tire of the beach, and love to share the island lifestyle with men from the big cold island of North America. Hope to hear from friendly men out there! *Ken Smith, 841A Kainui Drive, Kailua, HI 96734.*

ALOHA FROM HAWAII! I am a 33 year old GWM on Maui who is particularly attracted to men who are amputees, especially AK and hip amputations. I am 6'1" and weigh about 190#. I have dirty blond hair and mustache. I enjoy outdoor activities, especially the beach, swimming, snorkeling, etc. I am especially turned on by Asian, Filipino, Polynesian, and Latino men, the less body hair and the more foreskin the better. Would like to correspond with any amputee or other guys who share any of the same interests as I. Take a chance and write, you never know where it might lead. Aloha. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #447.*

HAWAII. I'm 41, 6'2", AK stump amputee. I prefer crutches, so do not wear a limb. My older partner of fifteen years who died a year ago was attracted to my disability, and I'm looking for a permanent relationship with a generous guy who's turned on by my stump. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #790.*

IOWA. Disabled single white male, 45 years old writer, wishes sincere, "professional" white male to correspond with and meet. Please write if you are interested in permanent monogamous relationship. Your sincerity and honesty are much more important to me than your physical statistics. *Bruce J. Ness, 127 Westgate Drive #22, Forest City, IA 50436.*

ILLINOIS. Hi! My name is Russ Pyle and I'm a quadriplegic. I have been for the last 14 years. I am a GWM, HIV-, and am a young looking 50 years old. I am looking for someone preferably in the Central Illinois area who is between 25 and 40 years old. I am a very generous

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and open person. Prefer you be gay/bi, masculine, HIV-, well-endowed a plus. If you are interested in writing to me, let's see what might develop. Please send a picture with your letter if you can. I will answer all replies, and any location. Hope to hear from you soon!!
Russ Pyle, 1580 Highland Place, Decatur, IL 62526.

ILLINOIS. GWM, abled, is attracted to and interested in meeting guys who wear leg braces, also guys wearing teeth braces; would also like to hear from guys with similar interests. *Terry Troutman, POB 1107, Arlington Heights, IL 60006.*

ILLINOIS. Hi! My name is Kurt; I'm 35 years old, have blond hair, blue eyes, T-12 spinal cord injury since June 1991; I'm independent, successful and good looking. Looking for friends and possibly more with the right person - able bodied or disabled. Please send photo for a quick reply. (Prefer 18-35.) *Kurt S. 2301 Broadway, Quincy, IL 62301.*

MASSACHUSETTS. GWM 38, 6'3", 235 lbs, brown hair, hazel eyes, beefy paraplegic, navy veteran, CEO of own company. I love travel, warm climates, hugging, cuddling. I like watching sports - gymnastics, swimming, tennis and figure-skating. Looking for a lifemate. *Ron, 25 Quisset Brook Road, Milton, MA 02186.*

CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS AREA. 29 year old GWM, 5'9", 185#, brown hair/eyes, full beard, handsome looking bear-type. Left above-knee amputee ambulating with prosthesis and cane. Secure in employment, lifestyle and have adjusted to the loss of my leg which occurred in 1987. I am searching for an older man (40+), preferably with a beard or facial hair or bear admirer, who appreciates a younger man who is intelligent, sensitive, and has his head on straight. I need an older guy who is also sensitive, handsome and easy-going, to guide this young, hot man into manhood. I enjoy quiet times, food, music, conversation and Beck's beer. I have a strong sexuality. I enjoy the look and feel of leather and am open to (but not explicitly looking for) exploring non-traditional sexualities, including B&D and father-son kinds of relating, and, for the right person(s) I would consider doing a video. I would like to hear from a man who is attracted to amputees, but prefer that you not be obsessed with my stump, or overidentify with amputees. I'm a non-smoker, moderate drinker and am non-sports oriented (other than between the sheets). In the right circumstances I would be willing to relocate. *Frank, POB 105, Westside Station, Worcester, MA 01602.*

MASSACHUSETTS. GWM 44, minor vision problem but a real man. I would like to hear from others. Please write and send photo and I will do the same. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #796.*

MASSACHUSETTS. My name is Phil. I'm an abled gay man, 38 years old, 5'11", 210#, brown hair/beard, and live in the Boston area. I own two successful businesses, am financially quite secure, enjoy traveling when I can find the time - my favorite destination is Las Vegas! I enjoy my extensive coin collections, watching the same movies over and over, some science fiction, tropical fish keeping, dining out (when I get tired of my lousy cooking!), a good glass of wine and cuddling on the sofa. I am college educated and have a commercial pilot's license. I'm very attracted to disabled gay men, preferably younger than I, who have a good sense of humor and who like to cuddle! Even though I'm more attracted to a person's personality, I do find certain disabled men very appealing! I desire a long term relationship, not just sex - it's nice but not that important to me. If that's you too, please drop me a note. I promise a prompt and honest reply to every letter I might receive. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #731.*

HEAVENLY MAN WITH EARTHLY PLEASURES. GWM 30, 6'1", in search of wheelchair GWM 25-45 from all over USA for friendship and possible relationship. I like alternative rock, jazz and classical music, museums, conversations over coffee, politics, candlelight dinners, sports and movies. Looks are not important to me, but honesty, openness and candor are a must. Please do not be bisexual, married, HIV, into S&M or drugs. I welcome responses nationwide; please respond with letter, mailing address and telephone number - photo nice, but not necessary. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #653.*

MARYLAND. GWM, 35, paraplegic, 5'11", 140lbs, brown hair, hazel eyes. Very good upper body strength. My interests include music, movies, literature, sports, and having good times. I would like to correspond with GWM paraplegic, 18 to 45 years old. Interested in getting together for friendship with the possibility of a sexual and emotional relationship. I would prefer to hear only from paraplegic men but am interested in hearing from other gay disabled men too. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #470.*

MARYLAND. GWM, mature, hairy, 6ft, blue/brown-gray, 185/190lbs. Life-long attraction to GMs with one leg shorter than the other or club foot or limp. I am truthful, loving, monogamous and seek same in mate for a permanent relationship. I like antiques, classical music & opera, cooking, travel, loving home in beautiful environment. My handicap is a short penis with small, mis-mated balls. Hope that our handicaps can be combined for mutual deep love and understanding. Please write to: *John, 1110 Fidler Lane #801, Silver Spring, MD 20910, ph. (301) 589 1873.*

MARYLAND. John, recently wheelchair bound with MS, goodlooking GWM 32, blond hair, hazel eyes, 5'11", 175 lbs, HIV-,

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swimmer's build, very active both sexually and physically. I enjoy swimming, working out at the gym and going to night spots, clubs and staying home with the right person, and I love to travel and sunbathe. I'm in search of a top man 18-45 with similar interests, with/without a handicap, strong and preferably muscular, ready for adventure, friendship. possible ltr. Please write with photo. *John Robert May, 10864 Bucknell Drive, #102, Wheaton, MD 20902.*

MARYLAND. Reasonably attractive Italian-Irish male, very healthy 55 (look 45), 5'10", 185 lbs, 38" chest, 36" waist, hazel eyes, brown hair, liberal Republican, dissenting Papist (Dignity), in transition from marriage, looking for companionship. I am an incomplete quadriplegic, able to stand and transfer, all working plumbing, and hoping for more recovery. I like Italian men, but am open to all; I am looking for a facilitator and comforter, abled or disabled. I like classical music, visual arts, politics, theater, museums; I would love one day to tour European cathedrals and hear their organs - perhaps with you? *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #894.*

SOUTH WEST MICHIGAN. GWM, retired 57 year old, 5'10", 145lbs, old polio with leg brace. I live alone and would enjoy writing to and possibly meeting others who don't mind those of us that are in some way different. I would be happy to exchange photos. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #393.*

MICHIGAN/CALIFORNIA. Alternative, progressive, independent GWM 34, 5'8", 140#, long brown hair and eyes, with offbeat good looks and keen sense of humor. I've been in a wheelchair since I was 21 from a car accident. I'm well-adjusted and well-traveled and with diversified interests. My search is for a confident, artistic, abled GWM 20-40 who is looking for a love connection. I have a great circle of friends but something is missing. I commute from LA back to Michigan regularly. If interested write me with a recent photo of yourself; I'm looking forward to all responses. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #883.*

MISSISSIPPI. GWM, 58, 5'11", 210#, gr/br hair and beard, HIV-, use crutches or cane, seeking GWM, 35+ for friendship/relationship. Hairy body, beard and/or stache a plus. I am a smoker, moderate drinker, no drugs. I am a low vision person, so please consider that when writing. I enjoy almost all music except Rock, like camping, boating, swimming, watching some TV, travel when possible, small parties, dining in as well as dining out, also the theater, arts and museums. I consider myself to be a computer novice but I do enjoy working with the computer and learning new things. I also enjoy some of the gay BB's in my local area. I am a warm and considerate person who enjoys cuddling, kissing and making love, holding and being held. I'm not into any of the B&D or S&M scenes and do not like pain. *Sam Tolar, 1521 W. Highland Drive #H-4, Jackson, MS 39204-2117.*

MINNESOTA. GWM 48, 5'10", 180#, br/hz, looking for life partner with whom to share mutual achievements, interests and lifestyle amenities. I'm a successful professional post-polio wheelchair user in a north central community, very loving, very committed in relationships, open minded and with few hangups. I'm interested in a GWM 35-45, currently abled, HIV-, secure, together, with a great sense of humor, affectionate, and who is successful in his life goals. Interest in outdoor as well as indoor life a plus. Sincere letters will receive replies (photo nice but not initially necessary). *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #791.*

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MINNESOTA. I am a GWM who is disabled from a car accident. I walk with a cane, and use a wheelchair at times. I am a redhead, with a beard, and a light complexion. I am 34. I like to read and watch movies (especially science fiction and comedies), sip gourmet coffee, and visit. I am seeking a special friend, disabled or able-bodied. A person person. Please write, all are answered. *Bob Barr, 180 Wayzata Street #507, Saint Paul, MN 55117.*

MINNESOTA. I have a soft spot in my heart for SE Asian and/or Russian males who are 18-30, little to no body hair, chemically/drug and disease free. I am abled, rather shy and very quiet. I enjoy watching sports such as baseball, basketball, wrestling, swimming, and gymnastics. Any/all serious replies will be answered. A photo will be a plus. *Thanx! Replies with correct postage please to A-T #303.*

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA. I am new to ABLE-TO-GETHER and am hoping this will be an opportunity to meet some great new friends. I am a GWM, 48 years old, weigh about 155 pounds, have blue eyes and brown hair and mustache. I have a neuro-muscular disability which is not too severe; I use a manual wheelchair but can walk a little. Overall I am quite healthy and a non-smoker. I am a research scientist, live independently and drive a van. In addition to typical interests (movies, music, etc.), I have two major life goals: finding the right man for a mutually satisfying relationship, and traveling as much as possible. More about the right man later. Over the past several years I have done a lot of traveling and plan more trips in the future. I would like to find some companions for future trips, disabled or abled, depending on the trip; depending on the situation, I may be willing to cover most of the expenses. The right man for me in a personal relationship would be either disabled or abled, would be easy-going, masculine, slim to medium build, dark hair and hairy (beard and mustache a plus); he would be a non-smoker and non-drug-user. *Bill Helgeson, 410 Groveland Ave. #702, Minneapolis, MN 55403.*

SOUTH WEST MINNESOTA. 32 years old, looking for friendship, someone to be the buddy I never had, to share what life has to

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MN - NJ**

offer. I enjoy the outdoors, walking, sunsets and sunrises, spending time at the lake, gardening, flowers and plants. Non-smoker and no drugs. Penpals welcomed, and all replies answered. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #589.*

I LIVE IN THE MOUNTAINS OF NORTH CAROLINA. Able bodied 58, 6'1", 220 lbs, gray hair, hazel eyes, hairy chest; I'm attracted to handicapped men; I'm retired and travel a great deal, and would love to hear from you wherever you are. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #508.*

NEW HAMPSHIRE. GWM, 46, 6', 190 lbs, HIV-, abled, honest, sincere; I love the country and mountains; I collect antiques; I travel some in the north-east. I am attracted to men who are amputees. Looking to hear from an amputee, also from someone else with similar interests. Photo and phone # appreciated. *Ed Openshaw, POB 65, Rumney, NH 03266, ph(603) 786 9922.*

NEW JERSEY. Hot 28-year old white guy, 5'10 1/2", 167 lbs, healthy, HIV-neg., drug-free, brown hair, blue eyes, cleanshaven, real good muscular build, smooth body, right leg mid-thigh amputee, agile and ambulatory with prosthesis and/or crutches. I am eager for mischievous sensuality with very tactile, sensitive partner(s), affectionate, cuddly. Depending on where the vibes take me I am open to different kinds of sexual expression and relationship, including one-on-one. You could be described as a horny tits, ass and stump man, and into fun friendship as well. I have no racial, size or age prejudices, and could even go for a m/f couple as long as the guy is bi or gay. Honest, frank communicating is a must. Your photo/phone # gets mine. *Boxholder, POB 7354, Freehold, Nj 07728.*

NORTHERN NEW JERSEY. Partially disabled, ambulatory, heavy GWM looking for lover. Me: 46, 6', 250 lbs, brown eyes, brown hair, beard, HIV -. Like to laugh, cuddle and snuggle. Like books, bookstores, classical music, restaurants, movies. You: GWM 35-50, slim to muscular, with similar likes. Letter and photo get mine. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #613.*

NEW JERSEY. Goodlooking masculine GBM, 30's, 6'3", 200lbs, b/k amp who is shy and passionate, likes movies, music, theater and sports, seeking to establish network of friends (20-50) with thirst for fun; any race welcome, please write with photo. *R. K. Williams, 539 Diamond Springs Ave., Cherry Hill, Nj 08003-3606.*

COVERS ALL EASTERN STATES! GWM, super senior mid 60's, 6'2", 220 #, long time A-T subscriber, semi retired, travels eastern seaboard and New England. Attracted to leg amputees - your loss no handicap to understanding and possible friendship and/or rela-

tionship. Would also like to hear from those with a similar attraction. Drop me a line, I'll take it from there! *Steve Miller, POB 341, Union City, NJ 07087.*

NEW YORK. GWM, 37, looks much younger, 5'6", 152#, br/br, college grad, handsome, deaf (ASL), quadriplegic - caused by diving accident; look like paraplegic; healthy, ex-ski instructor/racer. Wheel-chair racquetball, weightlifting, camping, bowling, travel, pedal cycling, etc., - very active person outdoors. Would like to meet disabled or non-disabled under 45 (no fems or overweights). Please write with photo. *Bill Searles, Green Mansions Rd., Chestertown, NY 12817.*

NEW YORK. I am a non-disabled GWM 6 ft. 175 lbs, in-shape, HIV(-), 57, professional, affectionate, and, like everyone, I am looking for that "Special Person"! Personality and character along with a purpose in life, someone who doesn't let his handicap get him down, are important traits to me. I am particularly attracted to "Men of Color". Your picture gets mine, but not necessary. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #374.*

NEW YORK. GWM, 35, 6', br/br, sometimes beard, heavyset, good looking, masculine, living in NY. Looking to meet or correspond with men who have a physical disability: paraplegics, quads, polio or other disability. (Endowment not an issue and erection capability not necessary.) Other physical attributes are unimportant if someone is willing. I am understanding and patient and can match my pace to yours. Having been heavy my whole life, I understand how inside everyone, regardless of the packaging, there is a special person who is very attractive. I am only looking for a physical relationship, to share good times and have fun with each other, always respecting limitations and desires. I am great with my hands and can be creative and versatile in both interests and activities, given a willing partner with particular interests or needs. I can be a very generous person in the right circumstances. Also, I would love to meet, talk to and/or correspond with others who share my interests, especially, but certainly not limited to, those whose focus is on legs and bare feet. I'm great with fantasies, having had a lot of practice, and would love to share some of mine if you share some of yours. Would love to find sources for videos, books, photos, etc. I will answer all who write, please send phone and photo if possible. If you're out there, and I know you are, please write. You'll never know if something wonderful can develop if you don't take the chance. *Bert Michaels, 954 Lexington Avenue #172, New York, NY 10021.*

SUPERSTAR WANTED for starring role in my life. I'm 37, 6'2", 180#, goodlooking GWM, not disabled but looking for disabled friends for fun, romance and more. I work in the arts and travel frequently. Looking for guys ages 20-50, - perhaps post-polio with braces, wheel-

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chair, crutches, but will answer all. *Peter. Replies with correct postage please to A-T #384.*

ITALIAN-AMERICAN! Hi, I'm an Italian-American disabled male with big loving heart and squeezable body, and I am looking for an able-bodied, good-built Italian-American male. I am looking for friendship first, sharing love and life. I am kind, considerate, and full of love to give to *caro ragazzo mio*. Is it you? *Pasquale J. Monaco, 180 Bethel Loop, #9E, Brooklyn, NY 11239, telephone # 718) 942 0701.*

NEW YORK. Able bodied GWM searching for disabled and abled contacts for good conversation (by phone or letter), possible meeting and sharing mutual feelings. I am 40 years old, 5'7", dark hair, blue eyes, a professional, very preppy in appearance and dress. I am hearing impaired and wear hearing aids - but they only help to make communication better! *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #264.*

NEW YORK. WM, 49, 5'8", 175 lbs, brown hair and eyes, clean-shaven, smooth body, very muscular bubble butt, affectionate, non-smoker, HIV negative, polio survivor, use cane for stairs only, able-bodied in appearance, seek friendship, hot times, pen-pals. Prefer local men but am open to travel. Photo/phone # helpful, and please be a non-smoker. Thank you! *Box 8211, Jackson Heights, Queens, NY 11372.*

NEW YORK. I'm Joe, 48 year old GWM, 5'10", 175 lbs, light brown hair with gray trim and balding, hazel eyes, moustache, and not bad looking. I had a stroke in 1981 and quadruple bypass in 1994: have a very slight limp, erection unpredictabilities, doing real fine otherwise, planning to get a house right here in the tundra. It's a great sensation for me to please another and I have a great deal of love to give to the right person. You would be younger, masculine, handsome, hopefully but not necessarily hairy, endowed, and open to sharing life, house, expenses. I'm on SSI, have a dog, an all white retriever named BEAR, have my BS, am a qualified chef, am very loving, honest, trustworthy, loyal, caring (including laundry, cooking and cleaning!) and most affectionate. I don't smoke, drink, or have any involvement with drugs. I am very clean, HIV negative, and hopefully you are also. I don't mind a social drinker, but I do mind alcoholics, drugs. Smoke bothers me, but I can adjust. If you're interested in the pleasures I can supply, which would in turn greatly satisfy me, please respond with your stats and photo. *Joe Krulisky, 1969 Falls Street # 1, Niagara Falls, NY 14303-1713.*

I LOVE TO SHARE NEW YORK WITH VISITORS. 46 yo WM, physician able-bodied, loss of vision in left eye since car accident. Interested in friendship - and/or... My first lover was an amputee and I would be interested to connect with someone with a similar disability. Enjoy opera, theater, travel, singing with NYC Gay Men's

Chorus. Give a call if you're in the Big Apple! *Michael B. Gehl*, 95 Horatio Street #706, New York, NY 10014, telephone: (212) 255 4140.

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YOUR PHOTO GETS MINE. Goodlooking, well-built, GWM, 45, 5'8", 150 lbs, green eyes, salt and pepper crew cut, into weight-lifting, motorcycles, leather, videos, photos and my very good imagination! Am attracted to men with one or more amputations and would love to hear from one such, also from someone else with similar interests. Looking for correspondence and maybe more. Any takers? *Alan Johnson*, 487 East Main Street #158, Mount Kisco, NY 10549-0110.

NEW YORK. GWM, 41, 5'11", 155 lbs, good youthful muscular looks, swimmer's body, brown hair, hazel eyes, multilingual, abled; interested in travel, reading, music from opera to house, and cooking; seeking disabled friend, 25-45, - especially if you are Arab, Indian or Latino. *Paul S. Rankin*, 50 Bank Street, New York, NY 10014.

WANTED: LIFEMATE/BEST FRIEND. Italian, 40, 5'10", 190 lbs, caring, sincere, passionate, Christian, honest, secure, broad interests in and out of bed, outgoing, fun, seeks you:- butch boy 28-44, masculine, perhaps in a chair or hearing impaired (I know sign language), serious, relationship-oriented, sincere, honest, secure, a little shy, Christian, enjoy life, caring, sense of humor, drug-free, HIV-. I live in Finger Lakes area of New York State. Write to A-T Box or call Bill, ph. (607) 962 4354 6pm-9pm weekdays. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #428.*

NEW YORK. GWM, abled, 35, 185, 6', very handsome with Mediterranean good looks, brown hair and eyes, clean shaven, muscular, athletic and gym-fit; looking to meet all types of physically disabled men, especially attracted to amps, paras and post-polio guys. I'm HIV- and into very hot safe sex and mutual satisfaction. Write or call: *Alex Exarchos*, 135 West 79th Street, New York, NY 10024, ph (212) 595 5755.

NEW YORK. 43 year-old, shy, learning-disabled gay hispanic man with young skin, interested in correspondence. I want to know how to be an excellent lover in and out of the bedroom - any of your ideas might be helpful. *Ramon Bellido*, POB 2526, New York, NY 10027.

NEW YORK. GWM 57, 5'11", 160 lbs, HIV neg., AK amp., gray-ing light-brown hair, blue eyes. Not only disabled because of amp. but also because of hemophilia. Mostly use power wheelchair. I have a live-in PCA who is straight. I am an artisan and most of my living comes from the making and selling of miniature furniture (dolls houses) to museums. I also paint and am a would-be sculptor. I am looking for a GWM, HIV neg., a life partner, lover and friend, of cheerful disposition - I am like that as soon as I open my eyes in the morning. (Dis)ability, looks, age, are all unimportant, what is important is our

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love for each other & love for miniatures and for the finer things in life, like classical/semi-classical music, with some c & w, good food (I like to cook), art, books, movies, and anything that's gay. Please do be a good conversationalist. Please don't be kinky - I'm not into pain, having had enough of it. I need someone that will not only be a life partner but will also share in my work. Will answer all who write. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #582.*

NEW YORK, BRONX/TRI-STATE. Disabled super heavy set gay white/hispanic male 42, 5'11", 415#, dark hair and eyes, balding and glasses, limited mobility. I enjoy TV, VHS, movies, video-games and music. I am looking for local buddies with similar interests. Photo & phone with your first letter appreciated. Let's see where this takes us! *Eddy, POB 651, Bronx, NY 10466.*

LONG ISLAND. GWM 45, 5'2", 125 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, moustache, eyeglasses, considered handsome and masculine, smoker, light drinker. Interests include antiques, PBS, music, swimming, dancing, long walks. I am warm, gentle, loving and race- & handicap-friendly. I prefer you to be masculine and height/weight proportionate and if possible from NY/LI area. Photo appreciated. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #765.*

NEW YORK. GWM 39, 5'6", 138 lbs, br/br, mustache & beard, mentally disabled, taking GED classes from vis ed, want to learn computer electronics. I like camping, fishing, swimming, hiking, walking the woods nude. Would like to meet friends, buddies, pen-pals. Call or write - let's get together soon. *Steven G. Nichols, POB 271, Saratoga, NY 12866, ph: (518) 581 8747.*

NEW YORK. GWM 27, 5'10", outgoing, good sense of humor, straight acting, affectionate, enjoys beaches, movies, sunsets, just relaxing by the fire, seeks GWM 18-30, disabled a plus, for friendship, relationship. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #651.*

OHIO. SWM, 40 years old, 140 lbs, HIV-, non-smoker and non-drug-user, drink very little, lost my right arm at the shoulder due to a motorcycle wreck. I am a very sincere, honest and responsible person. I would like to find the same qualities in a man who would like either to have a one to one relationship with me or just to be a good friend so that we could be honest with and have a good time with each other. *Dana K. Hale, 800 Everhard Road SW #707, North Canton, OH 44709.*

OREGON or SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA. Hi! I'm 'Tod, a GWM 29, 6'4", overweight (working on that!) but not a slob, broad shoulders - built like a football player, abled. I have brown hair and eyes, mustache and goatee, and a lovable, hugable and slightly hairy body. Been told I'm handsome, masculine and straight in appearance

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and I know I have a gutsy sense of humor. I live in Portland, OR but am moving to the Bay Area in Spring '96. I enjoy new situations and challenges and learning new things. I am looking for a life-mate who I can commit to - who is physically disabled and will love and accept me as I will you. I prefer shy men who are independent but needing to share their life with someone who loves them back. I don't have any other physical expectations of you as I have learned that it's the person inside that will keep us together. I like spending time together doing simple things like shopping or visiting a museum. I enjoy the simple experience of having someone in bed beside me. I cherish physical intimacy but choose not to cheapen it with trash talk or head games. I love getting to know the real you and opening myself up in return. I am sincere, thoughtful and caring and have a positive outlook. If you can stand all of that, please write - I will answer all replies, we'll never know what happiness we could share until you take that first step!
Replies with correct postage please to A-T #698.

PORTLAND, OREGON AREA. GWM, mid 30's, 5'10", 165 lbs, lt brown hair, blue eyes, able bodied. Would like to meet or correspond with disabled guys. I have a special fondness for amputees, but would like to hear from all, also from abled guys who share my interests. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #472.*

PENNSYLVANIA. 22 year old GWM, brown hair and eyes, and thin. I have mildly-severe Cerebral Palsy, which affects my ability to walk and talk, however I can be understood on the phone. I am ambulatory, but use a chair for long distances. Presently I am a college student at Temple University majoring in business. My interests/hobbies include computers, reading, writing, world affairs, and disability-related issues. I am a very open, sincere, and non-judgmental person who enjoys getting to know other people. I have an excellent ear and know how to be a good listener. I am looking to get to know people of any age or who have any disability for friendship and possibly more. I hope to hear from you soon. *Brian, 352 Valley Brook Road, Apt. A-6, Ambler, PA 19002, pb(215) 540 0411.*

PENNSYLVANIA. GWM, 39, sincere, warm, caring, intelligent, humorous, shy Leo, handsome (blush!), dark hair, beard, blue eyes, hairy back-butt-legs, HIV-, person with a disability, power wheelchair user, seeks friendship for mutual support, computer BBS-ers (?), videos, music, hugs, safe times, r/fr. No drugs, smoke, pain. *CWT, 3901 Market Street #1913, Philadelphia, PA 19104-3131.*

PENNSYLVANIA. GWM, 6'4", T-7 para, brown hair, blue eyes, 180 lbs, 41 yrs, braces, big balls, penile implant ever-ready. Like long, hard, safe, sane, horny encounters; enjoy travel, movies, mountains, sweaty nights and sticky mornings. Your letter, photo get mine. Stay well! *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #529.*

PENNSYLVANIA. Able gay male, 32, wishes to meet disabled or abled gay male(s) for cultural events, travel, intimate luncheons, torrid steamy overnight or long weekend trips, or a long-term relationship (and preferably all of the above!). Seeking friends is a given, of course, but this 5'10", hirsute, mustached and short-bearded bear wants to meet a man with the ability to challenge me intellectually as well as sexually; a man with a strong sense of his own identity as well as an unquenchable thirst for intense, romantic, one-to-one lovemaking and a lack of fear of long-term commitment. I prefer someone in my age bracket (30 to 40-ish), but I would not turn away someone in his 20's, 40's or 50's who possesses the character traits I seek. I would also consider relocating, if the individual in question needs this as part of a commitment - all is negotiable! Are you ready for me? *Evan M. Malin, Fox Chase Station POB 24725, Philadelphia, PA 19111-0725.*

PENNSYLVANIA. I'm a black male, 38 years old, 5'10", 291lbs, I have salt & pepper receding hairline and brown eyes. I have a slight mental disability. I am seeking a life-mate who is willing to relocate or I am willing to relocate for the right person. Please write or call at any time. *Edward Harris, 1041 West 1st Street, Oil City, PA 16301-3201, ph. (814) 676 3240.*

PENNSYLVANIA. GWM 36 years old with a swimmer's build, with cerebral palsy, use a wheelchair to get around. I have my college degree in theatre. I wrote a play and it was staged at Penn State University in the main campus. Believe me - I don't let my disability get in my way. I live on my own, one hour away from Philadelphia and one hour away from New York City. My interests are the theatre, working out at the gym, dancing, going to the beach in the summer, going to see male dancers, and traveling. Believe me, I do everything. I am looking for someone to be with to enjoy life as we live it. I am also looking for disabled guys to write to me and tell me how they cope with the everyday world, and to share ideals with. And... is there any guy out there who wants to take a vacation? Please contact me if you do. I need a vacation so bad. I was thinking about going to one of the islands, just lay out on the beach and look at the view. *Bill Lasch, 1101 Seneca Street #208, Bethlehem, PA 18015.*

IN SEARCH OF ABLED LIFE MATE. Non-mainstream GWM, 50, 5'8", 145#, bl/bl, simple, quiet, honest professional, traveled performer and arts educator with very high public profile. I am discreet, masculine, caring, sensitive and daring, a risk-taker. Physical disability due to polio, use wheelchair, but not confined to it, not paralyzed. Disability does not mean dependent. If you are a 40+ vital, masculine, articulate, loving man with a sense of himself and his sexuality who understands the words *loyalty, commitment, responsibility*, and wants to share the future and a monogamous relationship with another warm and understanding man, then write to POB 654, *Emmaus, PA 18049.*

TEXAS. GWM 53, 5'8", 150#, abled, HIV-, not turned on by disability but not turned off either, especially by types I've known. High school classmate was paraplegic, fellow worker in college had cerebral palsy, father was amputee, and good friend in grad. school had to have colostomy - plus some others! I have many interests ranging from railroading to impressionist art. Penpals to relationship, whatever... *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #828.*

SOMEONE TO WATCH OVER ME? Let's talk first. I'm just a regular guy, missing a part. Left B/K. But with my limb and long pants on, people just don't realize there's a replacement part there. In my mid 40's, but look 30's. (Yeah, right). No, for real! 5'11". Blue. Blond. HIV-. Don't smoke. Socially drink. Cleanshaven with light dusting of body hair. Average. (Everywhere). But my passions are deep. What are they? Music (everything but country). Movies and theater (maybe there's an escapist deep inside). Cars (sleek, fast and fun to drive). Skiing (on snow). Working out (pseudo jock stuff!). Flying (in airplanes - and it's a good thing, since I do it so much). Antiques and collectibles (furniture and porcelains...not people). My life is rich with friends, travel and experiences. What's missing is somebody to really talk with - somebody who's gay or bi and knows the difference between A/E, B/E, B/K and A/K! Somebody who shares those unique kinships. Somebody to trade stories with - *both* laughs *and* cries (laughs first!). Maybe there's a relationship there, maybe not. But finding out could really be wonderful! *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #721.*

TEXAS. Honest, shy WM 44 years old, 5'6", 138 pounds, blond (balding), hazel eyes (glasses), clean-shaven with mustache, little body hair, HIV-. I am on SSDI and have a lot of free time and would be interested in a rewarding correspondence with someone. I am gay in heart, body and mind. I like the outdoors, am home-loving, have a sense of humor, am a down-to-earth person. I like easy music and videos. No drugs, light smoker and drinker. At present I am looking for a relationship with a person older than myself who is also gentle and warm-hearted and with a good sex drive. I will answer all *Boxholder*; POB 2733, Dallas, TX 75221-2733.

TEXAS NORTH EAST. GWM, 56, 5'10", 165#, blond hair, blue eyes, wear glasses, nice-looking, disease-free, gym-going in good shape former forrester/logger living in a small country town; I am masculine, sincere, affectionate and very sexual; I enjoy fishing, hunting, camping, gardening and more. I am seeking a relationship with a younger man, attractive, slender/trim, clean, intelligent, disease-free, affectionate, loyal honest and very sexual, a guy who is honestly looking for an older man. My limitations are a congenital visual problem, which impairs my ability to drive in and travel to cities, but not much else; also a work-related back injury which prevents me from doing heavy lifting. I am open to the possibility of relocation. J. D., POB 221, Royse City, TX 75189.

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UTAH. I would like a HIV-positive penpal with whom to share experiences and feelings. Please write to *W. Garrard, POB 1796, Salt Lake City, UT 84110-1796.*

VIRGINIA. GWM, professional, 40, wishes to meet and/or correspond with amputees and other physically challenged people. *Michael Allen, POB 19435, Alexandria, VA 22320.*

VIRGINIA. My name is John Christopher Barrett. I have cerebral palsy and use a power chair for mobility. I am a white single gay male in my forties (but look younger), have black hair, dark brown eyes, am moderately hairy, 5'1" tall, and weigh around 135 lbs. I am employed at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) as an Office Services Specialist at the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (RRTC) on Supported Employment. I usually work four days a week and am off on Fridays, unless I'm away on a business trip. I enjoy going to the gay bars/clubs, enjoy dining out, enjoy dancing, enjoy going to movies and concerts, enjoy most types of music, and enjoy shopping. Cruising is my favorite pastime. I also like some sports, especially Ice Hockey and beach Volleyball. I like the beach as well as the mountains, nature, animals, and just life itself! Also I enjoy the nudist lifestyle when I'm home. I'm out there and you're out there, so why not let's get together and see what happens. If you are interested in getting together for an initial date, please call me! I am hot and horny! *John Christopher Barrett, 300 West Franklin Street, #103-W, Richmond, VA 23220, telephone # (804) 643 1410 after 5pm or at weekends.*

VIRGINIA. GWM, 53, 5'8" 150#, brown/blue; diagnosis - MS (still not definite); symptoms - walking difficulty, bladder and sexual dysfunction; personal interests - history, movies, trains, gay male erotica. I plan to relocate back to Cleveland in a few years and am interested in hearing from A-T subscribers in NE Ohio. *Mike Arian, 1215 N Fort Myer Drive # 708, Arlington, VA 22209, telephone: (703) 524 0612.*

TACOMA, WASHINGTON AREA. 67 years old, healthy man, large body, with a lot of love, care and consideration for the right person. I can be a real help to someone who needs a little TLC or whatever. Long term friendship desirable. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #704.*

APRIL '57 PIERCE ARROW CLASSIC has become available. This model comes with a sandy brown top, blue headlights and good rubber with a spare for the trunk. The interior is appointed with lush burgundy seats that still have a lot of wear left in both the front and back. And plastic mats are provided to protect the interior from swimmers with sand on their feet. If you love music you will love this model. This rare car has good gas mileage so doesn't need to pull up every time it sees a gas pump nozzle. If reliability, credibility and systems

that function on integrity are important to you then you must check this one out. V8 under the hood makes this model ideal for road rallies and evenings at the symphony or theater or for long distance travel. Most comfortable in the city but the country is nice for weekend getaways. A few minor dings exist on the body's finish but will still pass the Nissan ballbearing test! Seeking new owner that loves himself as well as those people that he holds dear. Your career is not important 'though I would like you to enjoy what you do. This model has only had two previous owners and will certainly not last long on the market. New owner should be height/weight proportionate and 28-48ish. Full history supplied and test drives currently available for those with an open mind and heart. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #678.*

NORTHWEST U.S. Retired male, 6'2", 180 lbs, enjoys gardening, hiking, traveling, corresponding, and I am a railroad buff. I would like to get acquainted with others with like interests. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #749.*

PACIFIC NORTHWEST. Single white male, 5'11" tall, 180 lbs, 55 years old, abled, having car and full-time job, seeking male disabled or abled living not too distantly. As I spend time in Bremerton, Tacoma and Seattle I am hoping to hear from someone living in western Washington state, but I am also open to hearing from those in Oregon and BC Canada. Write to *Rod Carter, POB 527, Manchester, WA 98353-0527.*

WASHINGTON. Able-bodied GWM wants to correspond with GM with disability; am familiar with blindness, so tapes ok. *Replies with correct postage to A-T #549.*

BALTIMORE - WASHINGTON AREA. GRAY'S OKAY! You: differently abled or abled, open to life and new experiences, optimistic, any age, size, shape, color (darker a plus!), drug-free, alcohol-addiction-free, financially self-supporting. Me: retired professional 60's, 6', 165 pounds, salt-and-pepper (more salt than pepper) hair, hirsute, goatee and moustache, some limp and limitations from arthritic knee. ISO friendship, maybe more. Interests include, but not limited to: transpersonal psychology (esp. reincarnation and ESP), African-American and Civil War history, Eastern Christian/esoteric spirituality, literature, reading, music from Bach to Yanni (high on Santana and oldies), cuddling, massage, affectionate creativity, maybe even light LTR w/right man. Am functional in Spanish and German. *Occupant, POB 4409, Brookland Station, Washington, DC 20017-0409.*

WEST VIRGINIA. Abled GWM, 23, 6', 195lbs, in search of amputee or paraplegic GWM for friendship and possible long-term relationship. I am a good-looking, intelligent recent college graduate interested in adventurous travel, scuba diving and disabled sports who is

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ADS
WV-INT'L**

searching for someone to share my life with. Must be well-adjusted, HIV negative and relatively masculine. Please send letter and mailing address along with telephone number and a photo if you have one. I will answer all responses. Also, anyone interested in attending the Paralympic Games with me in Atlanta, GA on August 16th-27th, please respond! *Alexander Jones, POB C-254, Concord College, Athens, WV 24712.*

WISCONSIN. GWM 38, abled, 5'6", 180 lbs, well built, br/hazel, trim beard/stache, masculine acting/appearing, HIV-. I enjoy outdoor activities, swimming, fishing, travel, cooking, music, etc. I am looking for disabled men, 18-42 yrs. for friendship, plus... I have been in a relationship with a man who is an amputee and would be happy to repeat the experience. I'm attracted to taller, well-built masculine men and like the look of men in/with workboots, 501 Levis, leg braces and prosthetics (esp. b/e hooks). All replies answered - photo appreciated. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #316.*

INTERNATIONAL

AUSTRALIA. GWM, 44, 6'2", 180#, able-bodied, professional guy working in strategic marketing and advertising, lived worked and studied in USA in 1976-77, loves Americans, attracted to physically challenged guys who love life and getting on with it. Get to USA about once a year, keen to correspond, talk to, meet guys who are amps, wheelies or wear braces. Don't let the tyranny of distance be another barrier! I love the outdoors, horses, surf, wining, dining, film, theater, reading, and mutually rewarding, non role playing safe sex. Why not write and claim your own live Aussie mate? *Ross Hepburn, 65 Finch Street, East Malvern, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia 3145.*

AUSTRALIA. GM, 44, 191cm tall, weigh almost 100kg, with shoulder length reddish hair and a beard. Work as HIV educator, but photography has been my passion since I was 16. Much involved in Sydney gay community, supporting people with HIV, and e.g. as photographer for Mr. Drummer competitions. Mostly Baroque music and instrumental jazz, no C & W. When I cook it is usually provincial French. Live alone in a c1900 flat just 15 minutes from the center of Sydney (sorry 18 steps up and no wheelchair access). I am a smoker and occasional drinker. I lived with a lover who was blind for ten years and am sensitive to people who are different. I would really welcome visitors! My only restrictions are that you have to be self-sufficient during the day, while I am at work, and please contribute to food costs. Looking forward to planning your visit with you! *David Edwards, POB 95, Westgate, 2048 Australia.*

ENGLAND. Hi there! I'm an English GWM, 39, 6'2", 160lbs, seeking friendships and exchanges and hopefully an intimate relationship. I'm polio-disabled but fully mobile and independent. I'm straight-acting, masculine, caring, loving and affectionate; also unselfish, loyal and dependable. I'm into travel, music, socializing and much more. Am relaxed, easy-going and open-minded. I live on the south coast about 2 hours from London in a wheelchair-friendly bungalow and welcome houseguests. I also speak German and French and basic Spanish. Hope to hear from you real soon. Take care now. *Paul Williams, 4 Dawn Close, Ensbury Park, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH10 4BL, England. P# (UK) 1202-548669.*

**CONTACT
ADS
INT'L &
PRISON**

GREECE. Greek male, 38 years old, architect, 80kg, 190cm, able bodied, brown hair and eyes. I am attracted to, and identify with amputees. Would like to get in touch with leg or arm amps, ages 25-55, from all over the world, as well as other guys with similar feelings. *George Kalyterakis, 32 Skoufa Street, Athens 10673, Greece.*

MEN BEHIND BARS

In this section ABLE-TOGETHER publishes the personal contact ads of prisoners who are paid full-year subscribers to the newsletter; readers responding to a prisoner's personal contact ad do so entirely at your own risk and it is your responsibility to satisfy yourselves as to whether the connection is in any way likely to prove dangerous or unsafe.

WASHINGTON. WM 28, 5'9", 170lbs, brn/bl, abled, honest, caring, looking for some ltr. I'm doing time in Washington State Penitentiary, but getting out soon, and I want to relocate to the San Francisco area. I'm muscular, healthy and marriage minded. I will answer all replies! *Brian Payseno #906041, Washington State Penitentiary (IMU-D-6), POB 520, Walla Walla, WA 99362.*

ABLE-TOGETHER

**THERE IS A SUPPORT GROUP
FOR GAY AND BISEXUAL MEN
WITH DISABILITIES AT
THE INDEPENDENT LIVING
RESOURCE CENTER,
70 TENTH STREET,
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103.
THE GROUP MEETS FRIDAYS
BETWEEN 11.30 AND 1.00 AND
IS FACILITATED BY
PETER DAMIEN.**

**CALL PETER AT (415) 431 1481
FIRST FOR DETAILS**

FORMATION OF GROUP FOR BISEXUAL/GAY MEN HAVING DISABILITES IN THE SEATTLE/TACOMA, WA AREA

**ABLE-TOGETHER readers interested
in participating in the formation of
this group are invited to contact:**

**Kim Rinehardt-Dodd,
Center for Independence,
407 14th Ave. SE,
Tuyallup, WA 98372
(206) 845 5187**

BULLETIN BOARD

*This Space Could Hold
Your Announcement.*

!!ABLE-TOGETHER ON TAPE FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED!!

If you or a friend would like
to receive A-T on audio tape:

- place a blank cassette tape in a cassette container;
- write your name & address on a return label;
- in the place of a postage stamp, write:
"Free matter for the blind and disabled"
- mail to:

**KEVIN COLLIN
THE CENTER, DISABLED SERVICES
POB 3357
SAN DIEGO, CA 92163-6357**

BULLETIN BOARD

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- place a blank cassette tape in a cassette container

FORMATION OF GROUP FOR
BISexual MEN WITH DISABILITIES
IN THE WATLIE/TACOMA, WA AREA

- in the place of a postage stamp, write:

"I've grown for the blind and visually impaired."

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THE CENTER, DISABLED SERVICES

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